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The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Identical letters dated 27 September 2005 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I am writing in order to draw your attention to the most recent terrorist attack perpetrated against the citizens of Israel.

On 26 September 2005, the terrorist organization Hamas admitted to killing Sasson Nuriel, a 51-year-old Israeli resident of the northern Jerusalem neighbourhood of Pisgat Ze'ev. Nuriel was abducted on 21 September 2005 and his body was found on 26 September 2005 in Beitunya, near the West Bank town of Ramallah. Hamas claimed responsibility for the terrorist attack and issued a graphic photo of Nuriel, bound and gagged, prior to his murder.

There should be no uncertainty on this matter: it is unacceptable for any community to condone the kidnapping, binding, gagging and murder of innocent civilians. Hamas killed Sasson Nuriel, an employee at a candy factory in the West Bank, who had close ties with Palestinian merchants, simply because he is Israeli and Jewish. Indeed it is Hamas's will to cleanse the region of all Jews; it states that ambition in its charter. Hamas recently publicized its goal to abduct as many Israelis as possible, by means of "kidnapping units". Meanwhile, the Palestinian Authority has not attempted to dismantle this organization, but rather it negotiates with it. The Palestinian Authority should no longer confer with an organization that admittedly engages in the cold-blooded murder of innocent civilians; it should act responsibly and dismantle it.

The State of Israel took a bold move by disengaging from the Gaza Strip and northern West Bank. The onus now lies on the Palestinian Authority to prove it is a willing partner of peace. Only by fulfilling the first phase of the road map — stopping terrorism — can the partnership reach fruition. The Quartet echoed this appeal, when it stated on 20 September 2005 that it "urges the Palestinian Authority to maintain law and order and dismantle terrorist capabilities and infrastructure".

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The international community should encourage the Palestinian Authority to act so these callous atrocities no longer continue.

I submit this letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism launched in September 2000, which document the crimes for which the terrorists and their supporters must be held fully accountable.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 14 and 108, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Daniel **Carmon**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.